

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04  
SIL-01 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 MCT-01  
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/128 W

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P 142250Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5720

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 5935

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PINS, ELAB, SHUM, PE  
SUBJECT: MOSCOW LINE LABOR UNIONS PLAN GENERAL STRIKE

REF: LIMA 5892

1. JULIO GRUZADO, SECRETARY GENERAL OF CTP (APRA) LABOR  
CONFEDERATION TOLD EMBOFF JULY 14 THAT RUMORS OF A NATION-WISE  
GENERAL STRIKE JULY 18 BY MOSCOW-LINE CGTP UNIONS ARE ACCURATE  
AND THAT SERIOUS VIOLENCE CAN BE ANTICIPATED. CRUZADO SAID  
LEADERS OF HIS CTP CONFEDERATION WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE  
JULY 15 TO URGE WORKERS NOT BE LED BY THE COMMUNISTS  
IN COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE CONFRONTATIONS WITH WHAT HE TERMED "INCREASINGLY  
HARD-LINE MILITARY GOVERNMENT."

2. CRUZADO WENT ON TO EXPLAIN FEARS THAT FURTHER STUDENT  
AND LABOR VIOLENCE WILL LEAD PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ TO  
RENEGE ON HIS PROMISE TO ANNOUNCE DURING JULY 28 CELEBRATION  
OF NATIONAL HOLIDAYS THE GOP SCHEDULE FOR RETURNING THE  
GOVERNMENT TO CIVILIANS WITH NATIONAL ELECTIONS BY 1980.  
GRUZADO SAYS THAT MORALES BERMUDEZ ALMOST SINGLE-HANDEDLY  
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IS HOLDING THE LINE AGAINST A MORORITY OF MINISTERS WHO  
DO NOT WANT TO GIVE UP POWER TO CIVILIANS. ACCORDINGLY  
CRUZADO FEELS IT IS TO THE LONG-TERM "STRATEGIC" ADVANTAGE OF  
THE APRA-BACKED AND ANTI-COMMUNIST CTP TO DO WHAT IT CAN TO  
SUPPORT THE PRESIDENT AND UNDERMINE THE EFFORTS OF THE CGTP  
AND FAR-LEFT UNIONS WHO CRUZADO SAYS ARE EITHER RESPONSIBLE FOR OR  
HAVE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN RECENT VIOLENCE IN CITIES SUCH AS

HUANCAYO AND TRUJILLO (REFTEL).

3. JULY 14 NEWSPAPER REPORT AN ABATEMENT OF VIOLENCE IN HUANCAYO AND TRUJILLO. OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE FROM HUANCAYO REPORT FIVE DEAD AND 36 INJURED DURING THE DISTURBANCE THAT BEGAN WITH A CITY-WIDE STRIKE JULY 11. THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO LIST THE DEAD AND INJURED BY NAME. THIS IS A CHANGE FROM PAST PRACTICES AND PROBABLY REPRESENTS GROWING GOP SENSITIVITY TO DEMANDS FOR INFORMATION FROM FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF PROTESTERS. THE RECENT PASTORAL LETTER ISSUED BY THE BISHOPS OF CUZCO, SICUANI, AYAVIRI, PUNO AND JULI (LIMA 5697) SPECIFICALLY CRITICIZED THE FAILURE OF THE AUTHORITIES TO GIVE OUT INFORMATION ON INDIVIDUALS KILLED, INJURED OR DETAINED DURING THE RIOTING.

4. TODAY'S NEWSPAPERS REPORT THAT PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ HAS POSTPONED A PLANNED TRIP TO ARGENTINA LATER THIS YEAR "IN ORDER TO DEDICATE HIMSELF" TO THE GRAVE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS FACING THE COUNTRY. ALSO, "FOR ECONOMIC REASONS," THE JULY 29 INDEPENDENCE DAY MILITARY PARADE HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

5. COMMENT: NEXT WEEK'S GENERAL STRIKE, IF IT MATERIALIZES, COULD BRING THE GOP TO THE POINT OF GRAVEST CRISIS SINCE THE FEBRUARY 1975 RIOTS. FACED WITH INCREASINGLY INTRACTABLE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS (SEPTTEL) AND APPARENTLY INTRANSIGENT STUDENT AND LABOR OPPOSITION, MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY GROUP  
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THAT NOW ARE IN POWER COULD BE TEMPTED, AS CTP LEADER CRUZADO TOLD EMBOFF, TO TIGHTEN THE MILITARY HOLD ON THE COUNTRY, REVERSE THIS LAST YEAR'S MOVE TOWARD DEMOCRACY, AND USE WHATEVER MEASURES NECESSARY TO SQUASH ANTI-GOVERNMENT OPPOSITION.

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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